

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for automatically filing documents relating to business transactions and for storing data relating to the business transactions, the method comprising:

producing at least one input data record from data relating to a business transaction, the input data record having a structure specific to a class of business transactions and to one or more business applications;

transforming, using a processor, the at least one input data record into an output data record that can be configured using one or more of the business applications; and

storing, in a storage device, the output data record, the output data record being a document having a first data area and a first identification code, ~~the output data record~~ document also having a second data area and a second identification code, wherein the first data area is configured to be read by a first of the business applications, and the second data area is configured to be read by a second of the business applications, and further wherein the ~~output data record~~ document can be read in full or in part by the first and second business applications by referring to the first identification code or the second identification code, and wherein the structure of the first data area or the second data area in the document is determined by the class of business transactions and by one or more business applications.

2. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the producing step is performed using a first program module, the transforming step is performed using a second program module, and the input data record having the specific structure is transferred from the first program module via an interface to the second program module.

3. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the business application is in the form of a third program module.

4. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 3, wherein the second program module is in a form such that the transformation process in the transforming step can be set by the third program module via an interface.

5. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 3, wherein the second program module is in a form such that it can read data, which can be selected using the at least two business applications, from the output data record upon a data request from the third program module and can transfer the data to the third program module via an interface for processing or display.

6. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 5, wherein the selectable data can be selected by the third program module.

7. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the output data record is stored on a transactional basis.

8. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the output data record includes, for a plurality of business applications, a database structure having one or more tables.

9. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the output data record includes, for different journals in accounting, different data areas.

10. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the output data record is designed for access via at least two business applications.

11. (Currently Amended) A computer system for automatically filing documents relating to business transactions, the computer system comprising:

a first module that produces at least one input data record from data relating to a business transaction, the input data record having a structure specific to a class of business transactions and to one or more business applications;

a second module that transforms the at least one input data record into an output data record that can be configured using one or more of the business applications; and

a storage for storing the output data record as a document having a first data area and a first identification code, the ~~output data record~~ document also having a

second data area and a second identification code, wherein the first data area is configured to be read by a first of the business applications, and the second data area is configured to be read by a second of the business applications, and further wherein the ~~output data record~~ document can be read in full or in part by the first and second business applications by referring to the first identification code or the second identification code, and wherein the structure of the first data area or the second data area in the document is determined by the class of business transactions and by one or more business applications.

12.-16 (Cancelled).

17. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 11, wherein the input data record having the specific structure is transferred from the first program module via an interface to the second program module.

18. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 11, wherein the business application is in the form of a third program module.

19. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 11, wherein the second program module is in a form such that transforming the at least one input data record into the output data record can be set by the third program module via an interface.

20. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 19, wherein the second program module reads data, which can be selected using the at least two business applications, from the output data record upon a data request from the third program module and can transfer the data to the third program module via an interface for processing or display.

21. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 20, wherein the selectable data can be selected by the third program module.

22. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 11, wherein the output data record is stored on a transactional basis.

23. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 11, wherein the output data record includes, for a plurality of business applications, a database structure having one or more tables.

24. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 11, wherein the output data record includes, for different journals in accounting, different data areas.

25. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 11, wherein the output data record is designed for access via at least two business applications.

26. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium that stores a set of instructions which, when executed by a processor, performs a method for automatically filing documents relating to business transactions, the method comprising:

producing at least one input data record from data relating to a business transaction, the input data record having a structure specific to a class of business transactions and to one or more business applications;

transforming the at least one input data record into an output data record that can be configured using one or more of the business applications; and

storing the output data record, the output data record being a document having a first data area and a first identification code, ~~the output data record~~ document also having a second data area and a second identification code, wherein the first data area is configured to be read by a first of the business applications, and the second data area is configured to be read by a second of the business applications, and further wherein the ~~output data record~~ document can be read in full or in part by the first and second business applications by referring to the first identification code or the second identification code, and wherein the structure of the first data area or the second data area in the document is determined by the class of business transactions and by one or more business applications.